## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Naoaki KATAOKA et al.

Serial No. [NEW] : Attn: Application Branch

Filed July 9, 2001 : Attorney Docket No. 2001-0978

METHOD FOR PURIFYING MATTER

CONTAMINATED WITH HALOGENATED

ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of Serial No. 09/355,981, Filed October 22, 1999)

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT

ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows:

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert the following as the first sentence of the specification:

This is a divisional application of Serial No. 09/355,891, filed October 22, 1999, which is a 371 of PCT/JP98/00363, filed February 7, 1997.

## **IN THE CLAIMS**:

Please cancel claims 21 to 27 without prejudice to the subject matter thereof.